

Conservation Actions Classification				
(Last Updated November 11, 2016. Send questions and comments to: DNRWWAP@wisconsin.gov)				
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ID	ActionCategory			Action_Description_Examples
1	1 Land/water protection			Actions to establish, identify, or expand parks or protected areas. All actions tied to directly protect biodiversity through parks, reserves, easements, or similar means. <b>List the resource, purpose, name, ownership, location and type of protection.</b>
1.1.	1.1 Site/area protection			Establishment or expansion of public or private areas. The action is ostensibly permanent and with legal designation. An area with boundaries, property. Actual management of protected areas falls under 2. Land/Water Management. Examples: strict nature reserve, wilderness area, national park, natural monument or feature, habitat/species management area, protected landscape, protected area with sustainable use of natural resources, nature reserves, town wildlife sanctuaries, private/communal reserves, conservancy property.
1.2.	1.2 Resource & habitat protection			Establishing protections or easements of some specific aspect of the resource on <b>public or private lands outside 1.1 Site/area protection</b> . Protects some feature, function or piece of the resource rather than the entire area. The action is ostensibly permanent and with legal designation. Examples: permanent easements, development rights, water rights, wild and scenic river program, streambank protection area.
2	2 Land/water management			Actions to conserve or restore sites, habitats, and the wider environment. Direct management of the land/water on both private and public lands. <b>List the type of management and how it is carried out, purpose and outcome, target resources, site location and ownership.</b>
2.1.	2.1 Site/area management			Management of protected areas and other resource lands for conservation. This category addresses parks and reserves that are designated but lack management. Covers the actual management of land/water protected under <b>1. Land/Water Protection</b> . <b>May include lands that are not permanently protected if they are generally not degraded, otherwise the actions should be placed in 2.3. Habitat &amp; Natural Process Restoration</b> . If the primary objective of the Conservation Action is preventing or controlling invasives, like controlled burn primarily to keep invasive species out of prairies or barrens communities rather than control native woody species, then use <b>2.2 Invasive/Problematic Species Control</b> . Examples: maintenance of habitat, site design, demarcating borders, erecting fences, training park staff, control of poachers, maintain management easements.
2.2.	2.2 Invasive/problematic species control			Controlling and/or preventing invasive and/or problematic species plants, animals and pathogens. Specific management actions tied to invasives. Conservation actions listed here may overlap with <b>2.1 Site/Area Management</b> or <b>2.3 Habitat &amp; Natural Process Restoration</b> , but it is such a vital action it has been assigned its own category. This is <b>not restricted</b> to areas, habitat, natural communities or systems protected under <b>1.1 Site/Area Protection</b> or <b>1.2 Resource &amp; Habitat Protection</b> and extends beyond these areas to restoration sites.
2.2.1.		W2.2.1 Prevention		W. Practices for preventing the introduction of invasive species into new areas or slowing the rate of invasion. Place best management practices (BMPs) and other forms of guidance for specific business sectors, activity sectors or environments here instead of in <b>5.3 Private Sector Standards &amp; Codes</b> .
2.2.1.1.			W2.2.1.1 Aquatic	W. Practices that apply to aquatic activities or species, habitats, natural communities or systems. Examples: actions described in the Clean Boats Clean Waters program, preventing ballast water discharge, boat washing stations.
2.2.1.2.			W2.2.1.2 Wetland	W. Practices that apply to activities in wetlands or wetland species, habitats, natural communities and systems. Examples: use nursery-propagated native wetland plants in landscaping and restoration; wash vehicles to avoid tracking invasive propagules into wetlands.
2.2.1.3.			W2.2.1.3 Terrestrial (upland)	W. Practices that apply to activities in upland environments, or upland species, habitats, natural communities and systems. Examples: Forestry, Recreation and ROW Best Management Practices for Invasive Species.
2.2.2.		W2.2.2 Control		W. Practices for controlling (i.e., minimizing the abundance and density) and eradicating invasive species from an affected area. Control programs can include one or a combination of manual, mechanical, chemical, biological and cultural components.
2.2.2.1.			W2.2.2.1 Aquatic	W. Practices that apply to aquatic activities or species, habitats, natural communities or systems. Example: using rotenone to kill carp; cutting and crushing aquatic invasives.
2.2.2.2.			W2.2.2.2 Wetland	W. Practices that apply to activities in wetlands or wetland species, habitats, natural communities and systems. Example: cutting and herbiciding phragmites.
2.2.2.3.			W2.2.2.3 Terrestrial (upland)	W. Practices that apply to activities in upland environments, or upland species, habitats, natural communities and systems. Example: cut-stump control of invasive shrubs; goat and sheep grazing; parasitic wasp ( <i>Agathis pumila</i> and <i>Chrysocharis laricinellae</i> ) which were introduced to control larch casebearer ( <i>Coleophora laricella</i> ) infestations in tamarack.

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2.2.3.		W2.2.3 Inventory & early detection		W. Surveys to locate, identify and map occurrences of invasive species should be placed here. For those species or occurrences new to an area, report as early detection to allow for control before becoming widespread. If the primary target of the surveys, inventory and monitoring is not invasives, the Conservation Action should be placed in the appropriate category in 8.1 Research <b>or</b> 8.3 Monitoring. Example: road right-of-way surveys for invasive plants.
2.3.	2.3 Habitat & natural process restoration			Enhancing degraded or restoring missing habitats and ecosystem functions; dealing with pollution. Private lands that are not protected under <b>1.1 Land/Water Protection</b> or <b>1.2 Site/Area Protection</b> should be placed here. Private lands that are generally not degraded, and the Conservation Activities are focused on "managment" of the current conditions should be planced in <b>2.1 Site/Area Management</b> or <b>2.2.1 Invasive/Problematic Species - Prevention/BMPs</b> .
2.3.1		W2.3.1 Aquatic		W. Restoration goals cannot be achieved without enhancing or restoring aquatic habitat or processes. If controlling invasives is the primary action use <b>2.2.2.2 Control - Aquatic</b> . Examples: removing dams, restoring streams to original stream beds and meanders.
2.3.2		W2.3.2 Wetland		W. Restoration goals cannot be achieved without enhancing or restoring wetland habitat or processes. If controlling invasives are the primary actions use <b>2.2.2.2 Control - Wetland</b> . Examples: restoring floodplain hydrology, removing sediments.
2.3.3		W2.3.3 Terrestrial (upland)		W. Restoration goals cannot be achieved without enhancing or restoring terrestrial habitat. If invasive control is the primary action use <b>2.2.2.3 Control - Terrestrial</b> . Examples: restoring fire management to fire dependant landscapes; connecting prairie and savanana habitats by removing brush.
2.4.	W2.4 Comprehensive management			W. Where management overlaps actions in <b>2.1 Site/Area Management</b> , <b>2.2 Invasive/Problematic Species Control</b> , <b>2.3 Habitat &amp; Natural Process Restoration</b> and cannot readily distinguish one from the other. Very common on DNR managed lands. Examples: management regimes that regenerate oaks while maintaining core areas of older forests for Cerulean Warbler; facilitated shifts of habitats that are vulnerable to climate change such as planting resilient native species.
3	3 Species management			Actions directed at managing or restoring species, focused on the species of concern itself. If the action targets >2 species, the Conservation Action should be placed in category <b>2. Land/Water management</b> . <b>List the species, purpose, intended outcome, type of management, how it is carried out and location.</b>
3.1.	3.1 Species management			Managing specific SGCN plant and animal populations of concern. Managing a problematic species that affects one to two SGCN should be placed in <b>2.2 Invasive/Problematic Species</b> .
3.1.1.		3.1.1 Harvest management		Applies to any SGCN species that would benefit from harvest management or fishing controls. Action does not have to be through regulation. Examples: protected reptiles that are not listed as threatened or endangered; harvest of threatended or endangered plant species on public lands for research would require a permit; other SGCN can be collected or harvested with permits or during some seasons of the year..
3.1.2.		3.1.2 Trade management		Setting harvest quotas, trade regulations, regulation of trade in non-timber forest products should go here. Although trade of many SGCN animal species is restricted or prohibited, this is not an importatn conservation action in our state.
3.1.3.		3.1.3 Limiting population growth		Actions to limit populations of SGCN to ecologically and socially sustainable levels. Typically applies to local populations or site-specific circumstances where SGCN such as bats, toxic native plants or insects present some risk to humans or populations stress available food resources. Examples: culling or relocating individuals or a portion of the population; reducing prey or host plant populations.
3.2.	3.2 Species recovery			Manipulating, enhancing, or restoring specific plant and animal populations, vaccination programs. Examples: manual pollination of trees, artificial nest boxes/platforms, clutch manipulations, supplementary feeding, disease/pathogen/parasite management. W. Headstarting of reptiles (turtles); hand pollination of orchids.
3.3.	3.3 Species re-introduction			Reintroducing species to places where they formerly occurred or benign introductions into suitable habitat.
3.3.1.		3.3.1 Reintroduction		Reintroduction to formally occupied sites/areas. Example: American marten in northern Wisconsin.
3.3.2.		3.3.2 Benign introduction		Benign introductions are to areas outside of the species historical range, but within an appropriate suitable habitat and done deliberately for conservation reasons. This may include facilitated migration of species or planting species outside their current range during restoration as a climate adaptation measure.

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ID	ActionCategory			Action_Description_Examples
3.3.3		W3.3.3 Translocation		
3.3.3.1			W3.3.3.1 Rescue translocations	W. Moving rare species out of harm's way and to a site more likely to allow them to survive. Examples: mussel translocations for bridge repairs; plant translocations for highway expansions.
3.3.3.2			W3.3.3.2 Supplemental Translocations	W. Bringing species to a location to supplement existing populations (i.e., occupied habitat) to increase reproductive success, genetic diversity, etc. Example: supplementing American Marten in Chequamegon National Forest.
3.4.	3.4 Ex-situ conservation			Protecting biodiversity out of its native habitat, which might be undertaken by zoos, aquaria, etc.
3.4.1.		3.4.1 Captive breeding/ artificial propagation		Captive breeding of animals, head-start of hatchlings, propagation of plants from seeds or cuttings, artificial propagation of plants, etc. Example: Northern monkshood propagation and planting on cliffs in driftless area; whooping crane captive breeding program.
3.4.2.		3.4.2 Genome resource bank		Gene-banking and cryopreservation. Example: Center for Plant Conservation Seed Bank.
4	4. Education & awareness			Actions directed at people to improve understanding and skills, and influence behavior. This action overlaps with category <b>7. External Capacity Building</b> , but actions in this class tend to target general public, stakeholders, landowners rather than organizations. <b>List the audience, content, methods and intended outcome.</b>
4.1.	4.1. Formal education			Enhancing knowledge and skills of students in a formal degree program at public schools, colleges, continuing education, internships and workstudy programs.
4.2.	4.2. Training			Enhancing knowledge, skills, and information exchange for practitioners, stakeholders, and other relevant individuals in structured settings outside of degree programs. Conservation Actions to develop and implement informal, short-term education through workshops, non-degree training courses, specific stakeholder education should be placed here. Training teaches people how to do something, master a particular skill or become knowledgeable about a relatively defined or limited topic. If the Conservation Action's objective is to give people a broader education on the topic, it should be placed in <b>4.1 Formal Education</b> . If the objective is to inform the target, make people aware of an issue and/or alter behavior, the Conservation Action should be placed in <b>4.3 Awareness &amp; Communications</b> .
4.2.1.		W4.2.1. Management and Conservation Training		Training to inform target audiences about management, restoration and protection practices. LIP program, SNA Volunteer program. Training geared towards informing specific target audiences about any practices developed to minimize harm and maximize benefit. Example: Pesticide Applicators Certification, DNR-Certified Reviewer Training.
4.2.2.		W4.2.2. Inventory and Monitoring Training		Training to help target audiences learn monitoring, inventory and identification methods and protocols.
4.3.	4.3. Awareness & communications			Raising environmental awareness and providing information through various media. This is a large category that involves many different efforts to raise awareness about conservation issues in specific stakeholder groups and the general public. Campaigns to enact specific legislation belong in <b>5. Law and Policy</b> . Generally these Conservation Actions the target is passive and will not necessarily act upon or implement a skill after receiving the information. Conservation Actions in this category may be the first step to other actions in <b>4.1 Formal Education</b> , <b>4.2 Training</b> or other categories.
4.3.1		W4.3.1 General ecology, biology, habitat related to conservation needs		W. Communication focused on general ecology, biology, habitat and conservation needs. Examples: WDNR-Natural Heritage Conservation Species webpages, presentations, radio shows, Cedarburg Bog Natural History Workshop.

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4.3.2.		W4.3.2 Harvest, roadkill, or other sources of illegal, incidental mortality, nonlethal threats		W. Communicating about behaviors or actions that may result in mortality or are generally detrimental to a species, habitat, natural community or system. The goal is to inform the target about the consequence of the action or behavior and alternatives. Behaviors or actions that are the subject of the communication may be illegal, require a permit, unregulated or incidental to another action or behavior. Examples: Keep Wildlife Wild Campaign, turtle crossing signs.
4.3.3.		W4.3.3 Negative perceptions		W. Communication to correct negative perceptions that an SGCN is harmful or a nuisance. Examples: EEK! Critter Corner; WDNR - Saving Wisconsin's Bats.
5	5 Law & policy			Actions to develop, change, influence, and help implement formal legislation, regulations, and voluntary standards. This includes strategies aimed at using government powers at all levels to protect biodiversity; includes awareness aimed at changing legislation. <b>Name the law or policy, goal and major responsibilities or obligations, affected SGCN or related resources and affected parties, activities or locations.</b>
5.1.	5.1 Legislation			Making, implementing, changing, influencing, or providing input into formal government sector legislation or policies at all levels. The official legal code governing society or "hard law".
5.1.1.		5.1.1 International level		International legislation. Example: wildlife trade laws like Convention on International Traded in Endangered Species (CITES).
5.1.2.		5.1.2 National level (Federal)		National legislation. Example: Federal Endangered Species Act, legislative appropriations, Lacey Act.
5.1.3.		5.1.3 Sub-national level (State, Tribal, Local)		State, Local, Tribal legislation. Examples: State--providing data to state legislators, stormwater control performance standards, endangered resources review in dam relicensing, invasive species control rule NR40; Local--developing zoning regulations, countryside laws, huntings bans; Tribal--creating tribal laws. W. Invasive species control and prevention statute, Endangered Species Law.
5.1.4.		5.1.4 Scale unspecified		Legislation (scale unspecified). W. Amend the State Endangered Species Act to include protection of habitat for listed species.
5.2.	5.2 Policies and regulations			Making, implementing, changing, influencing, or providing input into policies and regulations affecting the implementation of laws at all levels. How legislation is implemented--"soft law".
5.2.1.		W5.2.1 National (Federal)		W. National policies and regulations. Examples: Federal agency plans, USFWS Recovery Plans, National policies and regulations. List the type of policy or regulation and the specific action being taken.
5.2.2.		W5.2.2 State and Tribal		
5.2.2.1			W5.2.2.1 State	W. State policies and regulations. Examples: State agency plans, Forest Certification Plans, Master Plans for state properties, sustainable forestry practices - on state lands. List the type of policy or regulation and the specific action being taken.
5.2.2.2			W5.2.2.2 Tribal	W. Treaties established between tribes and the federal and state governments. These often have policies about species and habitat management and harvest allowances. Voigt decision over Chippewa harvest rights to fish, wildlife and non-timber forest products.
5.2.3.		W5.2.3 Local		W. Local policies and regulations. Examples: local zoning regulations, local Noxious Weed or Sand Mining Ordinances.
5.2.3.1.			W5.2.3.1 County	W. Examples: County land use ordinances
5.2.3.2.			W5.2.3.2 Municipal	W. Examples: Municipal parks regulations
5.3.	5.3 Private sector standards & codes			Setting, implementing, changing, influencing, or providing input into standards and professional codes that govern private sector practice. This category recognizes a range of obligation within these practices from those that are truly voluntary to those required by state statute to those that are part of policy or some other institutional requirement that fall somewhere in between. In these latter two scenarios individuals may be required to implement BMPs or standards while allowed varying degrees of interpretation of how, when and where to apply them. All Invasive BMPs in Wisconsin should be placed in <b>2.2.1 Invasive &amp; Problematic Species Control - Prevention</b> . Mandatory laws and regulations fall under <b>5.1 Legislation</b> or <b>5.2 Policy and Regulation</b> . Examples: Wisconsin Forest Management Guidelines, Stormwater Technical Standards, Avian Protection Plan Guidelines, nursery and landscape industry Code of Conduct for invasive species, open standards and corporate practices.

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5.4.	5.4 Compliance and enforcement			Monitoring and enforcing compliance with laws, policies, and regulations, and standards and codes at all levels. Laws, policies, regulations and standards are ineffective if they are not implemented and enforced. Some organizations merely try to monitor compliance whereas others have the power of enforcement. Communication and awareness intended to educate people about obligations under laws or regulations that affect SGCN and their habitat should be placed in the appropriate category in <b>4.3 Awareness &amp; Communications</b> .
5.4.1.		5.4.1 International level		Conservation Actions that affect international compliance and enforcement of laws, regulations and policies to conserve SGCN and their habitat. Examples: Conservation Actions that affect CITES enforcement, international customs agents.
5.4.2.		5.4.2 National level (Federal)		Conservation Actions that affect national compliance and enforcement of laws, regulations and policies to conserve SGCN and their habitat. Example: USFWS enforcement of the Federal Endangered Species Act.
5.4.3.		5.4.3 Sub-national level (State, Tribal, Local)		Conservation Actions that affect compliance and enforcement of state laws, regulations and policies to conserve SGCN and their habitat. Examples: eradication of prohibited species under NR40 Wisconsin's Invasive Species Rule, water quality standard monitoring, State Game Wardens.
5.4.4.		5.4.4 Scale unspecified		Conservation Actions that affect compliance and enforcement at an unspecified scale or at multiple scales.
6	6 Livelihood, economic & other incentives			Actions to use economic and other incentives to influence behavior. If the Conservation Action is intended to inform or educate people to influence behavior this should be placed in <b>4.3. Awareness &amp; Communication</b> . List the type and nature of the incentive, intended outcome, how it is carried out and how the incentive is supported or funded.
6.1.	6.1 Linked enterprises & livelihood alternatives			Developing enterprises that directly depend on the maintenance of natural resources or provide substitute livelihoods as a means of changing behaviors and attitudes. Examples: Ecotourism, non-timber forest product harvesting, Bird City USA designation.
6.2.	6.2 Substitution			Promoting alternative products and services that substitute for environmentally damaging ones. Example: recycling, use of farm-raised versus wild game, Green Tier Certification program.
6.3.	6.3 Market forces			Using market mechanisms to change behaviors and attitudes. This category is used for Conservation Actions that affect business or financial sectors. Standards without incentives should be placed in <b>5.2 Policies and Regulations</b> . Examples: energy star appliances, organic certifications, grass and forest banking, valuation of ecosystem services such as flood control, Certified Forest Program, Green Tier Certification.
6.4.	6.4 Conservation payments			Using direct and indirect payments to change behaviors and attitudes. Examples: tax credits, quid pro quo performance payments; resource tenure incentives, Landowner Incentive Program (LIP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).
6.5.	6.5 Non-monetary values			Using intangible values to change behaviors and attitudes. These are non-financial incentives--cultural, spiritual, life-style, human health. Some judgement is needed to distinguish this from Conservation Actions that should be placed in <b>4.3 Awareness &amp; Communication</b> . Use this category for Actions that go beyond passive communication with the target and that do not have a strong financial incentive. Examples: no child left indoor initiatives.
7	7 External capacity building			Actions to build the infrastructure to do better conservation. Every organization has to develop its own capacity to design, implement, manage and learn from its own work. However, if a group does this type of work to help partners then it should be placed in this category. Note the highlighted distinctions in each subcategory. List the involved parties, the type of capacity being built or supported, how it is done, affected SGCNs or resources and expected outcome.
7.1.	7.1 Institutional and civil society development			<b>Building conservation institutions.</b> Creating or providing non-financial support and capacity building for non-profits, governmental agencies, communities, and for profits. Example: creating new local land trusts; share expertise.
7.2.	7.2 Alliance and partnership development			<b>Promoting cross-organizational informational sharing, learning and collaboration.</b> Forming and facilitating partnerships, alliances, and networks or organizations. Examples: country networks, Conservation Measures Partnership, conservation initiatives.
7.2.1.		W7.2.1 Research		W. Partnership and alliances to improve research efforts. Example: University research partnerships.



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7.2.2.		W7.2.2 Inventory and Monitoring		W. Partnership and alliances to improve inventory and monitoring efforts. Post management monitoring is included here. Citizen based monitoring.
7.2.3.		W7.2.3 Management and Protection		W. Partnership and alliances to improve management and protection efforts. Local work parties and volunteer efforts on State Natural Areas
7.3.	7.3 Conservation finance			<b>Raising and providing funds for conservation work.</b> Providing the financial resources for conservation. This applies to all private or public sector sources and mechanisms.
7.3.1.		W7.3.1 Research		W. Raising and providing funds specifically for research efforts to develop methods or protocols, develop conservation actions, etc. Applying for grants.
7.3.2.		W7.3.2 Management and Protection		W. Raising and providing funds specifically for management and protection efforts such as restoration, vegetation management, and land acquisition. State Conservation Tax (similar to MN or MO).
8	8 Research needed			"Research" is used broadly to cover research, monitoring and conservation planning. This category can easily become inflated and so users are asked to be realistic and not propose everything. The selection should be for those subjects that are most needed to improve the status of the taxon being assessed and that could realistically be achieved within the next five years. May include efforts to validate and get more detailed information on the factors used to rank species. This category includes research for natural habitat, natural communities and systems as they support SGCN. Most of the options are self-explanatory. Applicable to SGCN only. Species with Information Needs (SINS) and species that were assessed, but not classified as SGCN, are addressed through a different path.
8.1.	8.1 Research			Species and habitat. <b>List the affected species, habitat, natural community, landscape or resource. List how this research will help conservation of SGCN or their habitat, overall approach and methods.</b>
8.1.1.		8.1.1 Taxonomy		Research to clarify taxonomy.
8.1.2.		8.1.2 Population size, distribution & past trends		Research to answer population size, distribution and past trends. Includes inventory work for species and habitat. Monitoring <b>future trends</b> should be place in category <b>8.3 Monitoring</b> . This category is for SGCN only, Inventory and mapping of invasive species should be placed in <b>2.2.3 Invasive &amp; Problematic Species - Inventory &amp; Early Detection</b> .
8.1.2.1.			W8.1.2.1 Distribution and Mapping	W. Research to determine and locate current distribution/range/sites. Sufficient information should already exist or the species would not have been able to be assessed for SGCN status. This category assumes more targeted and detailed information is being gathered. Example: Kirtland's warbler.
8.1.2.2.			W8.1.2.2 Composition and Quality	W. Research to determine habitat needs, population viability and more complex population characteristics needed for effective conservation. Example: Powersheik skipperling.
8.1.3.		8.1.3 Life history & ecology		Research to clarify life history and ecology/habitat questions. Life history and ecology of invasive or problematic species should be placed in <b>8.1.5 Threats</b> .
8.1.3.1.			W8.1.3.1 Life History	W. Research to clarify life history and habitat needs for the purpose of conservation actions. Example: host plant and foraging plant studies for Powersheik skipperling.
8.1.3.2.			W8.1.3.2 Habitat Elements	W. Research to identify essential habitat elements, features or preferences for effective conservation.
8.1.3.3.			W8.1.3.3 Species Interactions and Associations	W. Research to understand species interactions and associations for effective conservation. If invasive species are involved, this may overlap with <b>8.1.5 Threats</b> and some judgment is needed to determine whether the focus is more on the SGCN or the invasive species.
8.1.4.		8.1.4 Harvest, use & livelihoods		Research for setting harvest levels, use and livelihoods.
8.1.5.		8.1.5 Threats		Research to determine the nature and extent of threats as well as characteristics of the threat for the purposes of prevention or control. Examples: effects of invasive species and disease; cumulative effects of development and climate change on habitat fragmentation.
8.1.6.		8.1.6 Actions		Research to determine how to avoid and prevent, mitigate or compensate for particular threats at the source or their effects. Examples: biocontrols, head-starting, adaptation strategies, invasive species control and prevention.

Conservation Actions Classification				
(Last Updated November 11, 2016. Send questions and comments to: DNRWWAP@wisconsin.gov)				
Assessors are asked to use this taxonomy to indicate the conservation actions that are needed to address the issues and impacts that biodiversity targets (plants or animals, habitat, natural communities or ecosystems) are or may be exposed to. The work of conservation ultimately involves taking action to achieve certain desired outcomes among factors (direct threats, underlying causes, and opportunities) that affect biodiversity targets. In suggesting what actions are needed, assessors are asked to be realistic and not simply suggest everything. The selection should be for those actions that respond to the most urgent, significant and important threats; and that they could realistically be achieved within the next five to ten years. This conservation actions taxonomy is part of the Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation developed by the Conservation Measures Partnership (CMP). <a href="http://cmp-openstandards.org/tools/threats-and-actions-taxonomies/">http://cmp-openstandards.org/tools/threats-and-actions-taxonomies/</a> . Subcategories preceded by "W" (for Wisconsin) and the accompanying description have been added to the original taxonomy to reflect our state's circumstances and resources. The names of categories without a "W" remain true to the CMP taxonomy; however, the text of the descriptions has been edited for clarity and relevance to our state. At the end of each "tier one" description (e.g., 1., 2.), there is a "List" of the minimum information that should be available to adequately describe the action that benefits conservation of a species or its habitat.				
ID	ActionCategory			Action_Description_Examples
8.1.7		W8.1.7 Natural Community Inventory and Ecology		W. Current or historical composition, distribution and function of a "natural" community that includes the plants, animals and physical elements that occupy a common area and interact. This category acknowledges natural communities as habitats for groups of SGCN. Some judgment is needed as to whether the objective is from the species or community perspective. In the latter case we assume the research has some benefit to SGCN and their habitat to be listed here. Actions to address habitat for one or two SGCN should probably be placed in <b>8.1.2 Population Size, Distribution &amp; Past Trends</b> or <b>8.1.3 Life History &amp; Ecology</b> .
8.1.8		W8.1.8 Natural Community Threats and Actions		W. Research to determine nature and extent of threats (at the source) or the effect on the natural community and how to avoid, mitigate or compensate for this. Some judgment is needed as to whether the objective is from the species or community perspective. In the latter case we assume the research has some benefit to SGCN and their habitat to be listed here. Actions to address habitat for one to two SGCN should probably be placed in <b>8.1.5 Threats</b> or <b>8.1.6 Actions</b> .
8.2.	8.2 Conservation Planning			Research to inform and develop Conservation Plans, including recovery, management, harvest plans. Includes development and writing of the Plans. Data and information obtained from <b>8.1 Research</b> and <b>8.3 Monitoring</b> may be used in development of conservation plans. This category includes not only species and habitats, but natural communities and landscapes, because objectives from all three perspectives overlap in some Conservation Plans. In any case, we assume that development of the plan has benefit for SGCN and their habitat to be listed here.
8.2.1.		8.2.1 Species Action/Recovery Plan		Gathering information and development of species action/recovery plans. Example: development of Federally listed plant recovery plans, Wisconsin Wildlife Action Plan.
8.2.2.		8.2.2 Area-based Management Plan		Gathering information for and writing area-based management plans. Example: development of Biotic Inventory Reports, Rapid Ecological Assessments, Regional Planning Assessment, Master Plans.
8.2.3.		8.2.3 Harvest & Trade Management Plan		Research to inform and write harvest and trade management plans. Not common for SGCN in our state.
8.3.	8.3 Monitoring			Long-term monitoring to inform future trends. This implies a long-term dataset with the same variables or locations being sampled over time. There must be baseline information on the SGCN population or its habitat that already exists for future monitoring to occur. If this is not the case, then baseline information gathering should be placed in <b>8.1 Research</b> . This is for SGCN and their habitat, including natural communities and systems. Invasive species monitoring should be placed in <b>2.2.3 Invasive &amp; Problematic Species - Inventory &amp; Early Detection</b> .
8.3.1.		8.3.1 Population trends		Long-term monitoring of population trends. Example: Wisconsin Bald Eagle and Osprey Survey, Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas, Frog and Toad Survey.
8.3.2.		8.3.2 Harvest level trends		Long-term monitoring of harvest level trends. Example: Mississippi Flyway Council.
8.3.3.		8.3.3 Trade trends		Long-term monitoring of trade trends. Example: Timber economic analyses.
8.3.4.		8.3.4 Habitat trends		Long-term monitoring of habitat trends (this does not include inventory/mapping/identification of current distribution and status unless part of a long-term project). We have broadened this category to include not only species habitat, but natural communities and systems as well, because monitoring objectives may overlap (i.e., monitoring habitat elements may coincide with natural community characteristics).
8.3.4.1			W8.3.4.1 Distribution & mapping	W. Long-term, regular, periodic habitat distribution monitoring programs.
8.3.4.2			W8.3.4.2 Composition, Quality & Function	W. Long-term, regular, periodic habitat composition and condition monitoring programs. Example: water quality monitoring; wetland functional assessment.
8.3.5		W8.3.5 Effectiveness monitoring		W. Actions where the primary objective is to assess effectiveness of avoidance, prevention, mitigation, restoration, acquisition in achieving a desired outcome(s) for the target(s), which may be SGCN or its habitat. Other objectives may be part of the action, but this is the primary one. Examples: controlled burning and SGCN invertebrate host plant cover, biodiversity indices over time post habitat management.
8.4.	8.4 Other			Other research needs to cover emerging issues, changing environment, miscellaneous monitoring needs and initiatives.